[Translation]

Heavy Engineering Corporation

4455. SHRI RAMTAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the deteriorating financial condition of Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) Ltd., Ranchi in Bihar;

(b) whether it is on the verge of closure;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to save the mill from closure?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd. (HEC) Ranchi in Bihar has been facing financial crisis due to its continued losses for quite some time.

(b) to (d). BIFR, in its hearing held on 26.8.96, has sanctioned the rehabilitation scheme of HEC. At the same time, Government is extending financial support to the company within its budgetary constraints.

[English]

Export of Electronics and Computer Software

4456. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of electronics and Computer Software and related services has increased during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c). Yes Sir. The details are given below:

Exports in Rs. (Crores)

1994-95	1995-96 (E)	Percentage Growth
3808	6375	67.41%

(Source : Electronics & Computer Software Export Promotion Council)

(E) : Estimated

De-Limitation and De-Reservation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies

4457. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of de-limitation and de-reservation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies throughout India is on;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard so far; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Powerlooms

4458. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRI KALLAPPA AWADE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether manufacturing of Dhoti and some other varieties of clothes have been banned in powerloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the policy chalked out by the Government to save the powerloom industry and millions of powerloom workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government have reserved certain varieties of Dhoties and some other items with certain specifications and description for exclusive manufacture in the Handloom Sector under Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 for the protection and development Handloom Industry. Name of items reserved are given in the attached statement. With a view to developing powerloom industry, various steps have been taken like opening of Powerloom Service Centre, Computer Aided Design Centre, Powerloom Development & Export Promotional Council and implementing Insurance scheme for Powerloom workers & weavers.